

RESOLUTION NO. 2246

WHEREAS, Alexandria strives to be a community based on mutual understanding, where people trust their government and each other; a community that welcomes and values all of its residents, treating everybody with human dignity and respect; and

WHEREAS, people of all races, nationalities and cultures live and work together within Alexandria and bring pride to the community; and

WHEREAS, Alexandria has experienced and continues to experience a period of unprecedented prosperity with low unemployment, declining crime, and improving quality of life; and

WHEREAS, our international diversity has made and continues to make Alexandria and the United States stronger and more economically successful, contributing to our way of life; and

WHEREAS, intolerance and fear threaten the diversity and strength of our community; and

WHEREAS, intolerance and fear lead to discrimination and discord, both of which threaten the health and safety of our community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria affirms its responsibility to ensure that all people within our City limits are accorded equal protection under the law; and

WHEREAS, it is not the role of state or local governments to assume federal responsibilities for immigration law any more than it is the role of local government to enforce federal tax, patent, or commerce regulations; and

WHEREAS, local government's role is to provide for the health, safety and security of the entire community; and

WHEREAS, it is morally appropriate and fiscally prudent to focus our finite City resources towards addressing and resolving discrete community concerns that are governed by the applicable local laws; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria seeks to celebrate the inclusiveness and diversity that contribute to the strength, safety and quality of life of all Alexandrians; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Alexandria that the City of Alexandria will continue to:

1. Foster an atmosphere of inclusiveness that respects the dignity and worth of every person without regard to race, color, sex, religion, ancestry, national origin, marital status, age, disability, sexual orientation, and familial status;
2. Work towards building bridges of understanding and mutual respect among the diverse members of our community;

3. Comply with all federal and state laws related to immigration, including those that involve eligibility for state and federal programs;
4. Protect the security of its community and will aggressively prosecute all individuals who threaten our security with serious crimes, checking the immigration status of any such person and forwarding this information to appropriate State and Federal officials; and
5. That, beyond what is required by State and Federal law, the City and its various agencies will neither make inquiries about nor report on the citizenship of those who seek the protection of its laws or the use of its services.

ADOPTED: October 9, 2007



WILLIAM D. EUILLE MAYOR

ATTEST:



Jacqueline M. Henderson, CMC City Clerk